

CLAIMS:

5 *Sub B18* 1. A method for processing cash advance requests using a process management and workflow system coupled to a data repository, upon receipt of a cash advance request by the process management and workflow system, said method comprising the step of operating the process management and workflow system to record the cash advance request, evaluate current collateral information, and evaluate current credit status.

10 2. A method in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising the step of operating the process management and workflow system to evaluate whether the collateral information is up-to-date.

3. A method in accordance with Claim 2 wherein if the collateral information is not up-to-date, said method further comprises the step of operating the process management and workflow system to update the collateral information.

15 4. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein evaluating current credit status comprises the steps reviewing whether money is actually available in a credit line, and whether a borrowing client's business is performing according to expectations.

20 5. A method in accordance with Claim 4 wherein evaluating current credit status further comprises the steps identifying dilution, reviewing advance rate, and reviewing fraud possibilities.

6. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the step of operating the process management and workflow system to initiate a review and approval process, and to either deny or approve the request.

5 7. A method in accordance with Claim 6 further comprising the step of notifying a user of a request status.

8. A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein if the request is approved, said method further comprises the steps of initiating a wire transfer of funds, and archiving wire transfer details.

10 9. A method in accordance with Claim 8 wherein if the request is approved, said method further comprises the step of notify the user that wire transfer is complete

15 10. A method in accordance with Claim 1 the process management and workflow system is coupled to client by a wide area network, and wherein receiving financial information comprises the steps of establishing a communication link between the accounting system and the process management and workflow system, and authenticating validity of the accounting system.

20 11. A method in accordance with Claim 10 wherein the wide area network is the Internet.

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12. A system for processing cash advance requests, said system comprising a data repository, and a process management and workflow system coupled to said data repository, said process management and workflow system configured to:

- 5 record a cash advance request;
 evaluate current collateral information; and
 evaluate current credit status.

10 13. A system in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said process management and workflow system is further configured to evaluate whether the collateral information is up-to-date.

14. A system in accordance with Claim 13 wherein said process management and workflow system is further configured to update the collateral information if the collateral information is not up-to-date.

15 15. A system in accordance with Claim 12 wherein to evaluate current credit status, said process management and workflow system is configured to review whether money is actually available in a credit line, and whether a borrowing client's business is performing according to expectations.

20 16. A system in accordance with Claim 12 wherein to evaluate current credit status, said process management and workflow system is configured to identify dilution, review advance rate, and review fraud possibilities.

17. A system in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said process management and workflow system is further configured to initiate a review and approval process, and to either deny the request or approve the request.

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18. A system in accordance with Claim 17 wherein said process management and workflow system is further configured to notify a user of a request status.

5 19. A system in accordance with Claim 17 wherein if the request is approved, said process management and workflow is configured to initiate a wire transfer of funds and archive wire transfer details.

20. A system in accordance with Claim 19 wherein if the request is approved, said process management and workflow system further is configured to initiate notifying the user that wire transfer is complete

10 21. A system in accordance with Claim 12 wherein said process management and workflow system is coupled to a client by a wide area network, and wherein to receive financial information, a communication link between a client accounting system and said process management and workflow system is established.

15 22. A system in accordance with Claim 21 wherein said wide area network is the Internet.

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